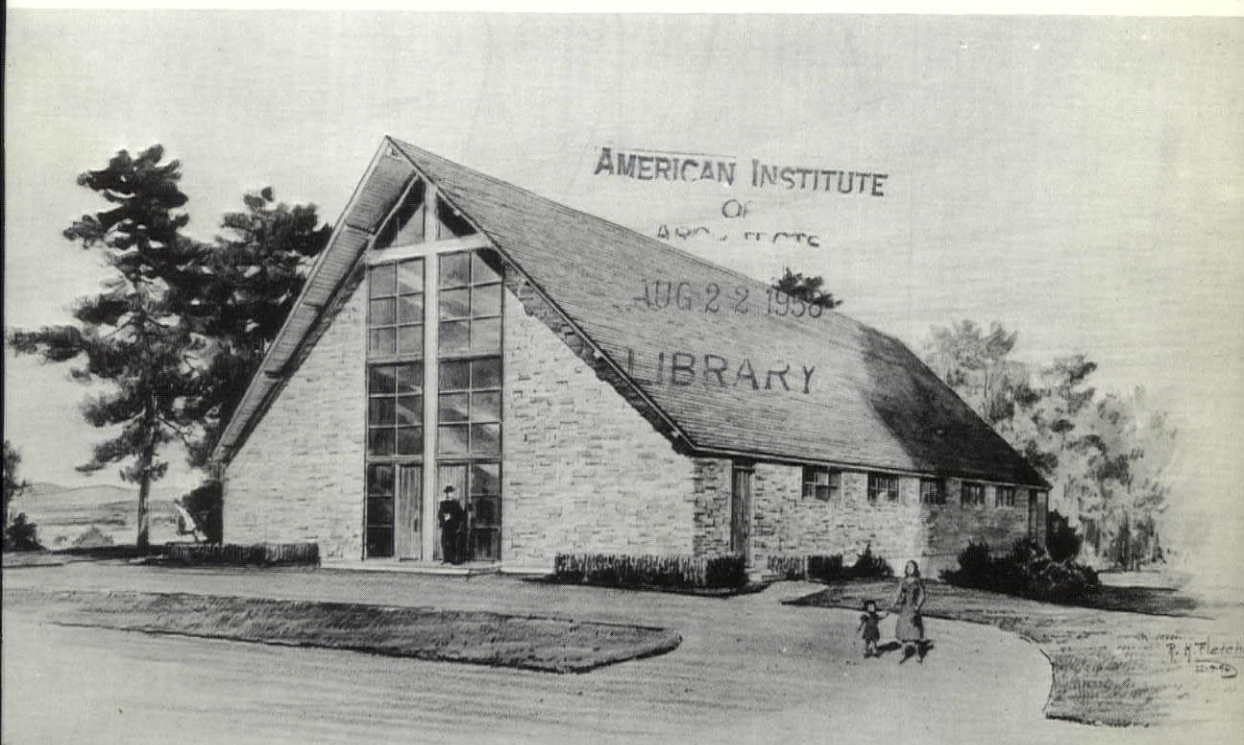


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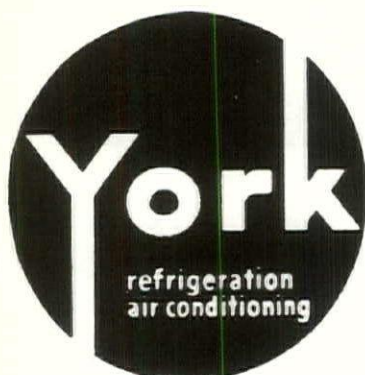
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Our Lady of Grace Chapel at Bristol, N. H.
John D. Betley, A. I. A. Architect.

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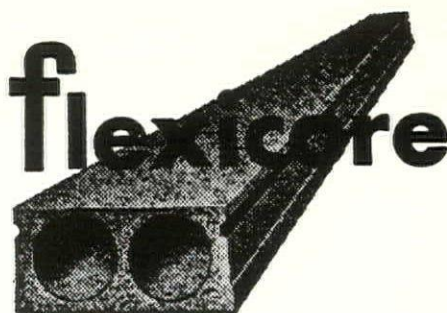
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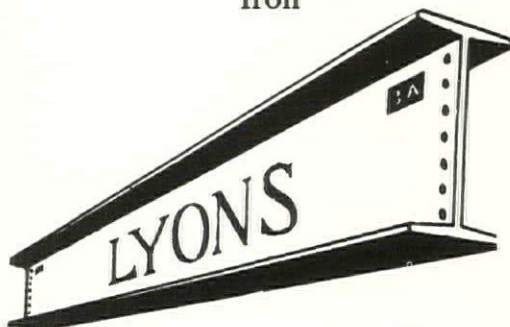
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The President's Message

SCATTERED NOTES ON THE 1958 A. I. A. CONVENTION

Convention going is a great American pastime and often times brings to mind a picture of boisterous people mixing a small amount of business with a great deal of "good-time." The A. I. A. convention is somewhat different, particularly the one in Cleveland,— people are in a convention mood but it is tempered with a considerable amount of seriousness. As a matter of fact, it is possible to keep busy all day long. The business sessions of the Institute take up all of the morning and from 2 o'clock on, the afternoon program is filled with the various seminars — and in between times, of course, there are the product displays, asking to be seen and proving most informative.

I managed to attend all of the business sessions from Wednesday through Friday and caught most of the seminars in the afternoon. One of great interest to me was the Chapter Affairs seminar, with your own Gene Magenau serving on the panel. A highly informative discussion on the various problems of the Chapters, including what is being done to perk up attendance at meetings, this being a common problem with every Chapter of every state.

The most spirited business session centered around the proposed extension to the east front of the nation's Capitol. This has been highly publicized and therefore needs no discussion here. However the convention voted overwhelmingly to oppose the extension, on the grounds that a 32 foot extension on the east front will spoil the architectural as well as the historic character of the Capitol, and that the expenditure of \$100,000,000 provides space only for a handful of offices and the addition of a small dining area. I find that this is the third time the institute has taken such an action on the same issue.

There was a determined effort made by the New England delegates to elect Austin Mather for the second vice presidency of the Institute. The effort failed since a portion of the convention became a political camp, an event that was deplorable, unbecoming, and certainly not in keeping with the professional standards of the Institute.

As the convention week comes to an end everyone is suddenly overcome by a great weariness and each is glad to return home. But it has been fun seeing old friends, you have learned something, and it is somehow a great comfort to find that the problems of the architects all over the country are the same as your own.



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THE 101st CONVENTION

By Eugene F. Magenau, A. I. A.

The first convention of the American Institute of architects' second century held up to the high standards of professional interest and good fellowship of other recent conventions.

Most of the activities took place at the Hotel Cleveland which handled them very well except that the electrical wiring proved inadequate to carry the load of extra air conditioning. This caused temporary discomfort as it came during a spell of very hot weather.

I arrived in Cleveland on Monday, July 7th, in time to take in two seminars' of the Construction Specifications Institute, whose convention immediately preceded that of the A. I. A. Subjects were "Specifications Methods" and "Hardware and its Sensible Use." The C. S. I. is a fast growing organization with 29 chapters and 3,000 members, whose enthusiasm reflects the interest in and need for better specifications.

Of the 17 resolutions adopted by the A. I. A., the following were of the most general interest: a resolution by the New York Chapter for re-establishment of the former committee on fees and contractual relationships; a resolution by the Chicago Chapter for establishment of a building code committee; and one by the St. Louis Chapter asking the Board to reconsider its recent action which eliminated full regional representation on several "vertical" committees.

After extended debate the Institute also voted overwhelmingly to re-affirm the

stand taken by the Board of Directors opposing extension of the East Front of the U. S. Capitol Building in Washington. Final vote was 225 to 49, showing a strong sentiment to preserve the historic designs of Thornton, Latrobe and Bullfinch rather than correct the debatable "defect" wherein a portion of the great dome's base rests on the portico roof. Although a group of architects, all member of A. I. A., have already been authorized by Congress to proceed with part of the project, another group headed by Ralph Walker of New York, testified that a superior solution of space requirements would result from extending the West Front only, and that restoration of the crumbling stonework of the East Front is not impractical, as proved by the preservation of many ancient structures in Europe. It remains to be seen whether this question will be settled by political mandate, or by public opinion of which the A. I. A. may rightfully be considered to be the best informed spokesman.

The Annual President's reception was held at the Cleveland Museum of Art, in a recently completed and magnificently designed new wing. Here we could meet not only genial President and Mrs. Leon Chatelain, but other officers of the Institute and their ladies, and friends from all parts of the country.

The products exhibit was once again a major feature of the convention, with 92 exhibits by members of the Producers'

(Continued on Page 10)

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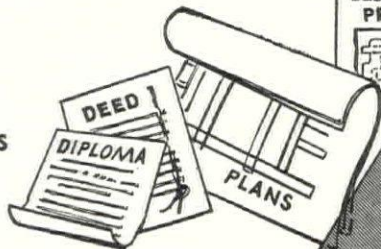
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(Continued from Page 8)

Council. Here one can get a "refresher course" on materials and equipment with which we are already familiar, and learn at first hand about the new products which are constantly coming into use. In the competition for the most effective manner of displaying products, Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp. was the winner; for the most attractive booth, winner was Kaiser Aluminum Chemical Sales, Inc.

The 10th Annual Program of National Honor Awards for Current Architecture produced many beautiful designs. The curtain wall, textured masonry, and new geometrical shapes were much in evidence. It was also interesting to note the importance of landscape architecture, which is of course an indispensable adjunct to modern design. Only winner in New England was the Connecticut General Life Insurance Building at Bloomfield, Conn., by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill of New York.

Vincent J. Kling of Philadelphia in his keynote speech recommended that architects match the clients' broad requirements and specialized demands with an equally broad and equally specialized service; and that we establish our own pre-paid entirely professional products research program, free from the influence of manufacturers' commercial interests.

In a seminar on office practice and procedures, the topics of employees' overtime, travel time and expenses, holidays, vacations, sick leave, bonuses, etc. were discussed. The business of sales, production, payroll, research, personnel and taxes on top of technical duties imposes a terrific burden on the practising architect. It was pointed out that present discrimination against the professional person can be eliminated by the Jenkins-Keogh bill now pending in Congress. This bill would permit professionals and other self-employed persons to take a deduction currently for monies paid into a trust from which they would draw when they retire, deferring the tax until then.

An interesting and spirited discussion took place during a Chapter Affairs seminar conducted by Chairman Paul Hunter and members of the Chapter Affairs Committee. Subjects covered were: vertical

committee structure; student chapters; documents of the month; chapter award programs; chapter reports; attendance at meetings, including talk of more women's auxiliaries; regional meetings; executive secretaries; and the chapter manual, of which a new second edition is to be published shortly.

In the voting for officers, elsewhere reported in this issue, New England lost out in a political battle attempting to retain past Regional Director Austin Mather of Bridgeport, Conn., on the Board; he was defeated for the office of 2nd Vice President by Henry L. Wright of California.

As this was strictly a "working convention" for me, I did not attend any of the social functions such as the Awards Luncheon or the Annual Dinner, nor did I go on any of the attractive tours arranged by the host Cleveland Chapter. I know they would have been rewarding. And this is far from a complete report of everything that happened at the convention or of the many fine cultural things to be seen in Cleveland. There is no adequate substitute for attending one of these conventions yourself.

REGIONAL MEETING AT BAR HARBOR, MAINE

The New England Regional Council has scheduled a fall meeting at Bar Harbor, Maine, on September 12, 13, and 14, with the theme "RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS," under the general chairmanship of Phil Gatz of the Maine Chapter.

The Council has scheduled some interesting panel discussions and special speakers to cover the various aspects of the planning and execution of RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS. But all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. So that you, as a chapter member, may enjoy golf, sight-seeing or just plain relaxing with our fellow New England architects, ample time will be provided between meetings. Bring your family along — they will enjoy the clambake on Saturday the 13th. Plan ahead. Make a tentative reservation on your calendar — do it now.

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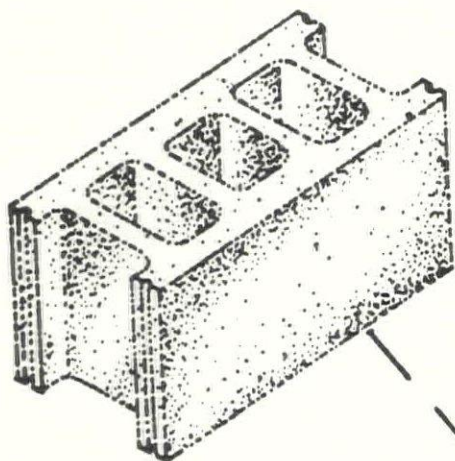
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The new Our Lady of Grace Chapel is located on Route 3-A at Hobart road, Newfound Lake, Bristol. The chapel provides facilities for the larger summer population in the area which the small parish church in Bristol is unable to accommodate.

The chapel has a seating capacity of 550 and the basement, with its direct on-grade entrance from the parking lot, will be used for parish activities.

The foundation and first floor slab are reinforced concrete. Bestone concrete blocks were used on the walls and are exposed on the interior. Side walls are ten inch cavity type and solid masonry is used at the ends. Framing is laminated timber trusses with wood purlins covered with wood plank decking left exposed on the underside. Asphalt shingles are used for the roof covering.

The concrete floor is covered with asphalt tile. The sanctuary has oak

flooring, mahogany plywood walls with wood louver screens above.

Windows are aluminum projected type with wood interior trim. Doors are wood, flush type. Cove lighting is continuous between the trusses.

The altar is solid oak with natural finish and was made by the Rev. John Bosa, pastor of St. Charles Church, Meredith. The wooden cross above the altar is more than 15 feet high and was made by the contractor. The figure of Christ is approximately seven feet tall and is of plaster finish in natural color.

The pews, kneelers and altar rail are over 75 years old and were donated by St. Marie's Church in Manchester. They were completely renovated and finished by painting them a light cream-gray color. The uprights for the altar rail were fabricated by the chapel's pastor, Father Simard. The small crosses that adorn the uprights are stainless steel.





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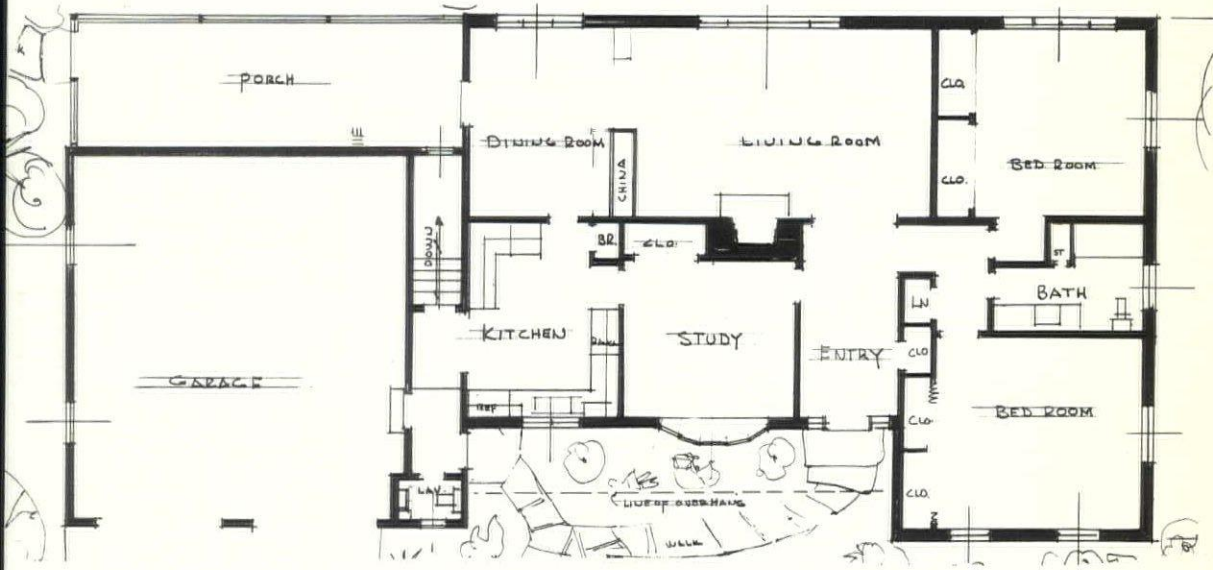
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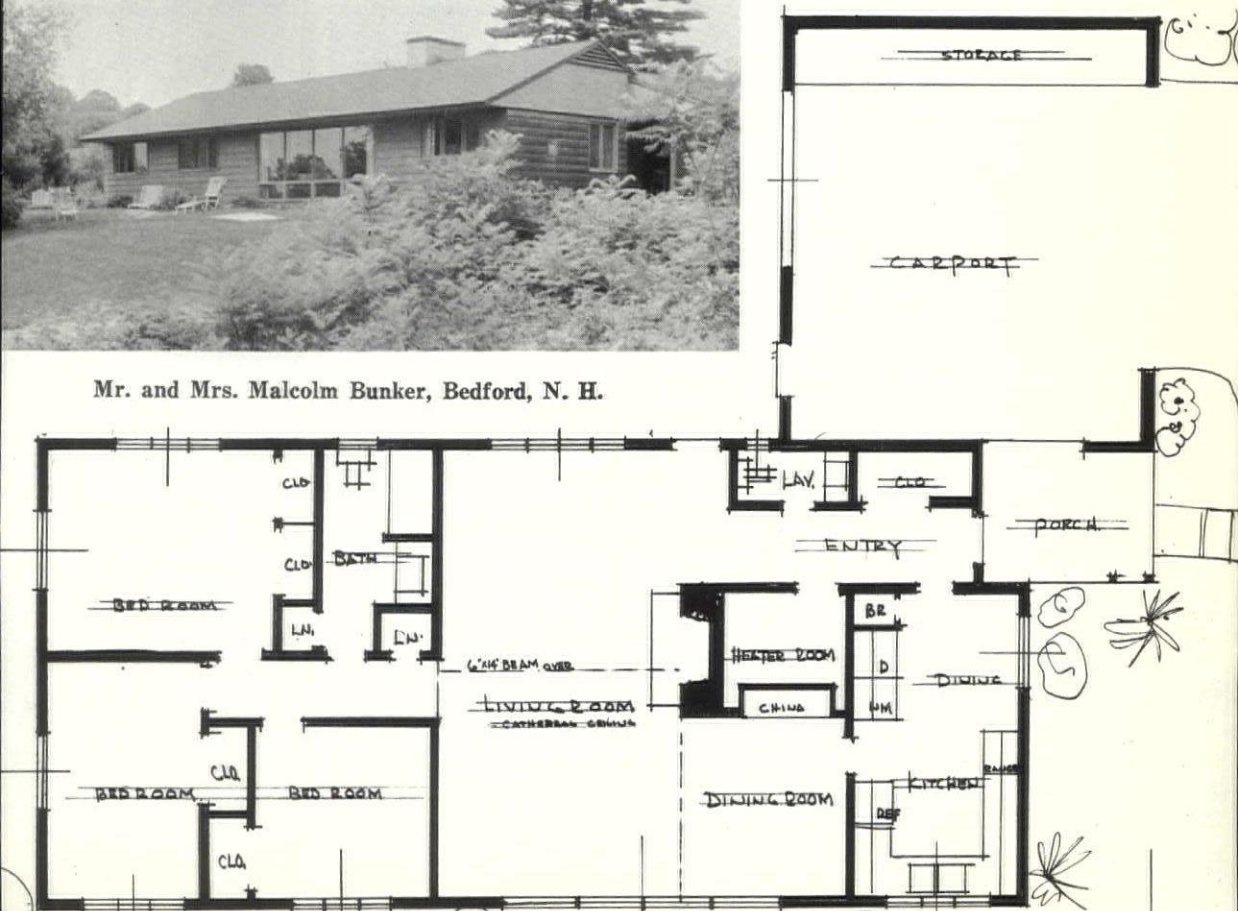
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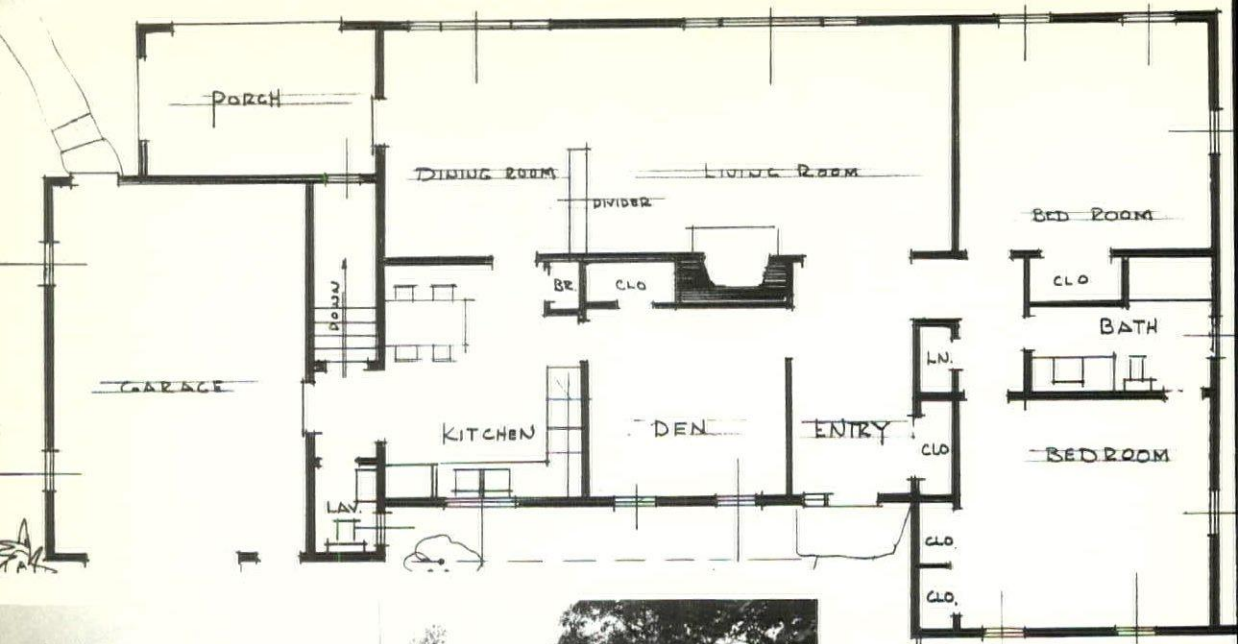
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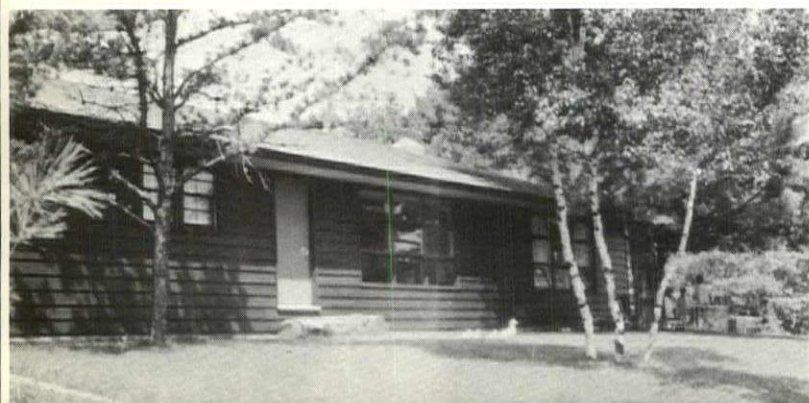
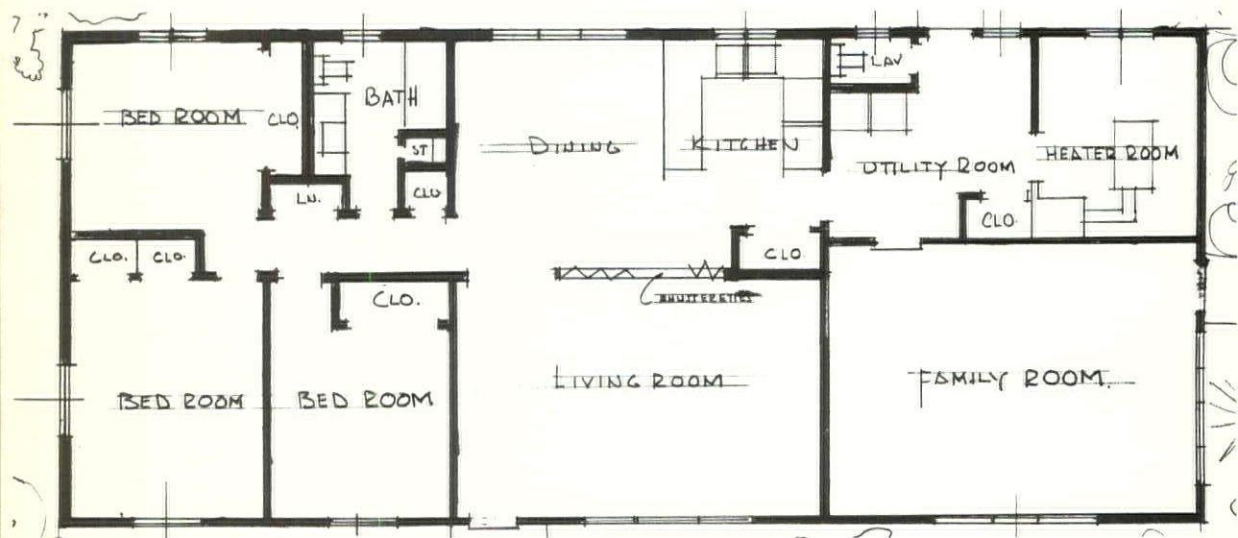




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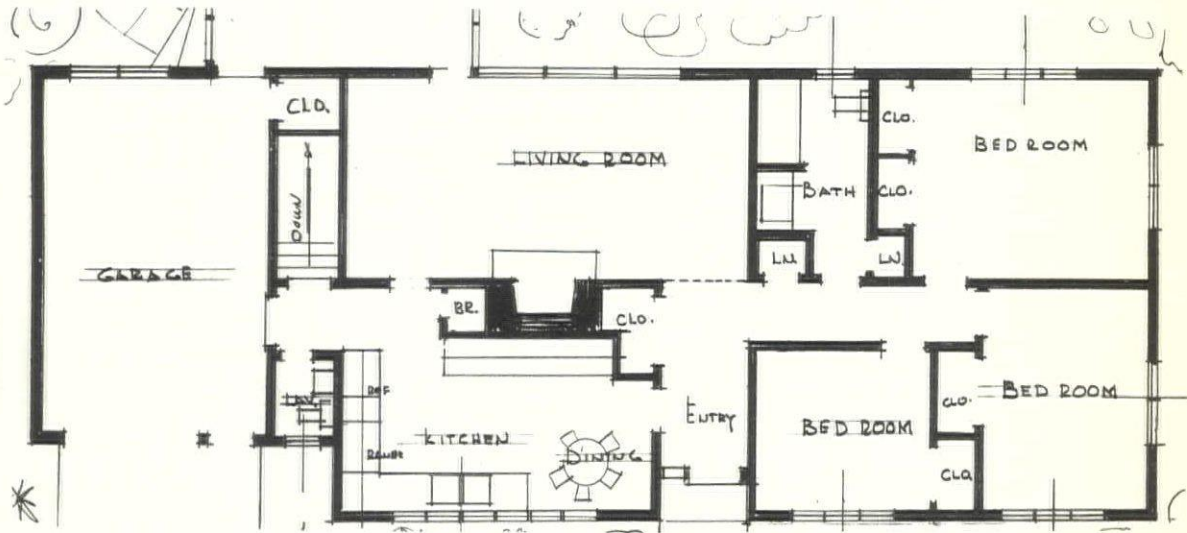
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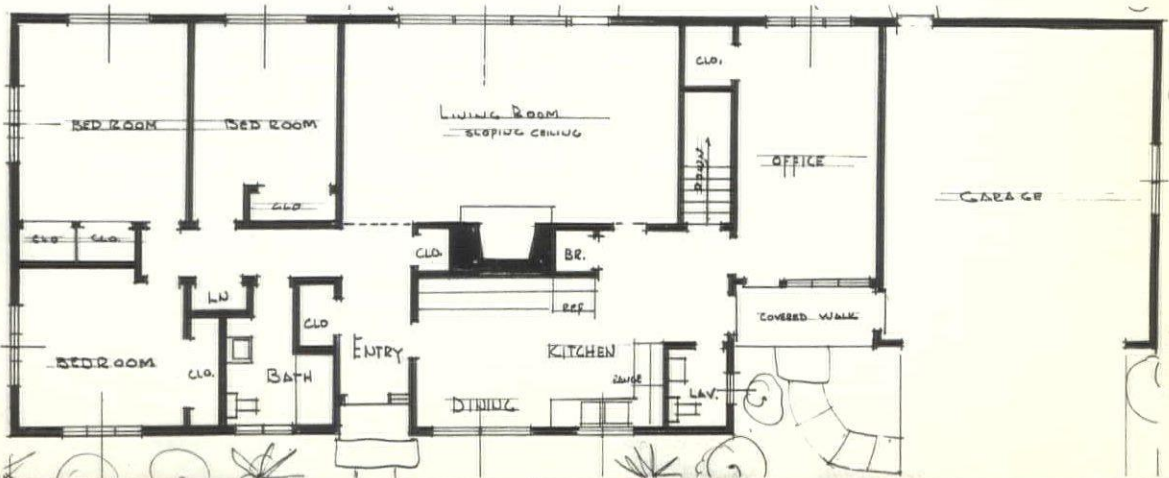
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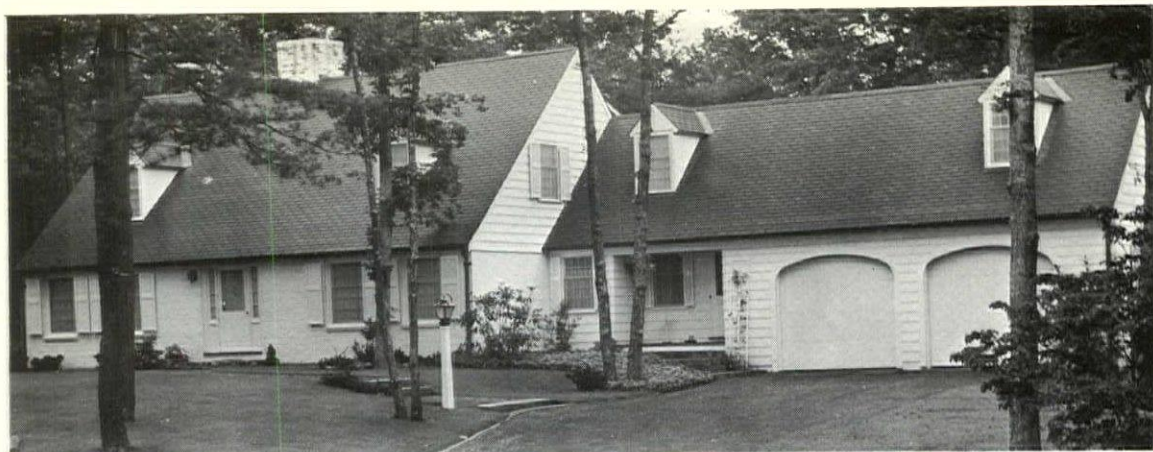


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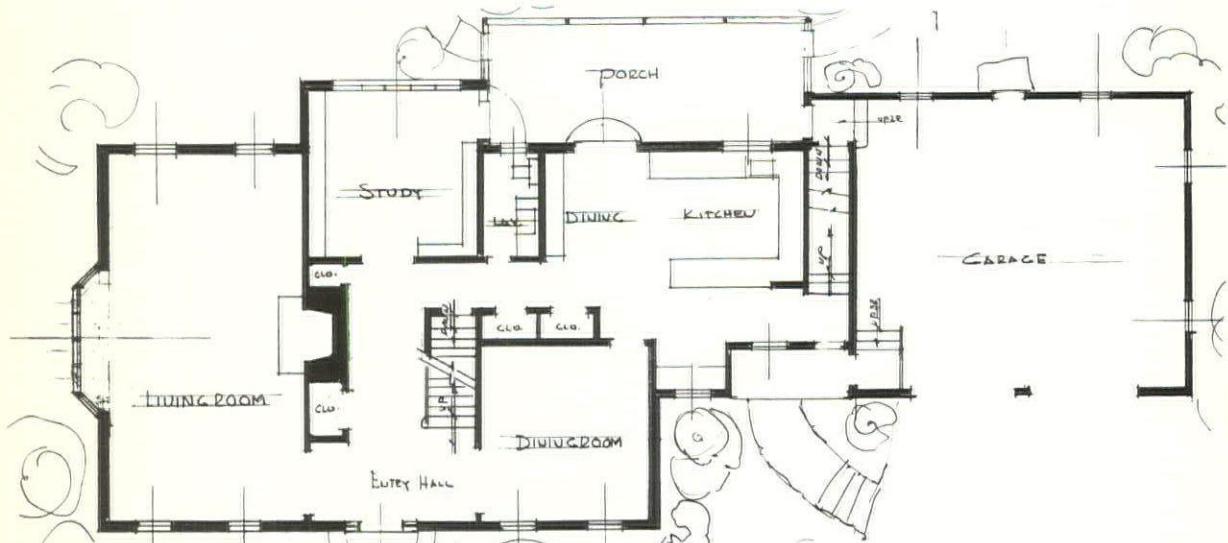


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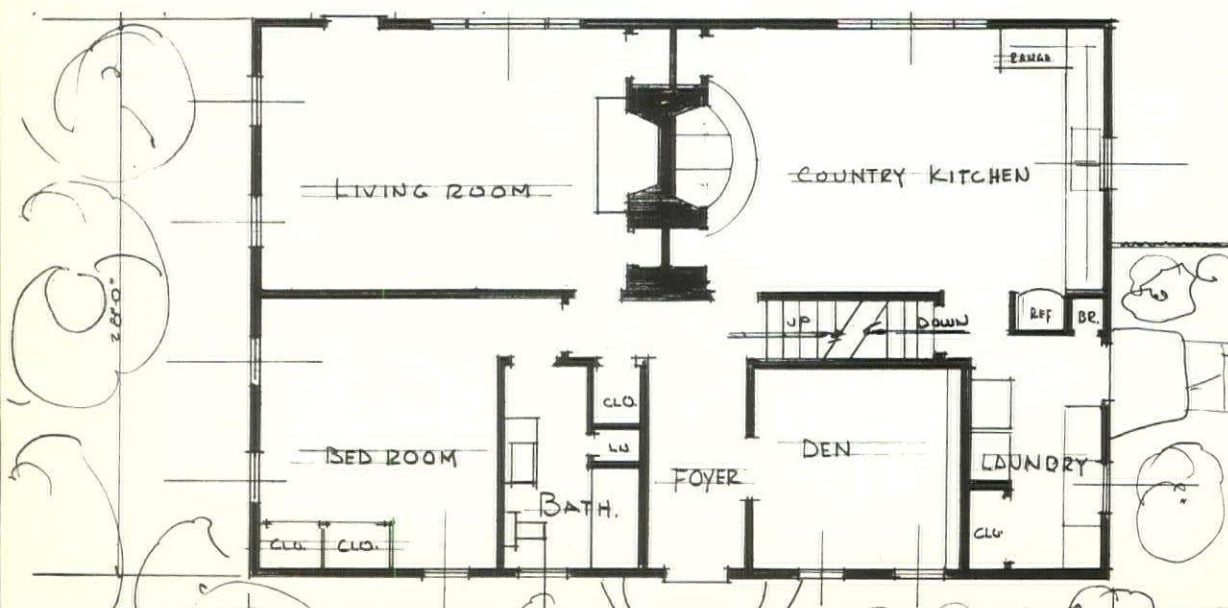




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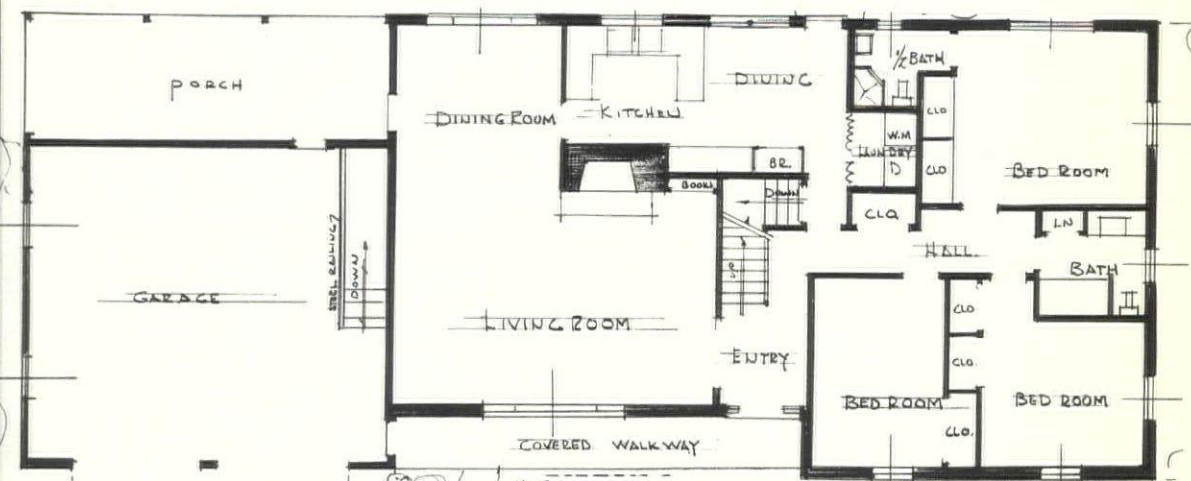




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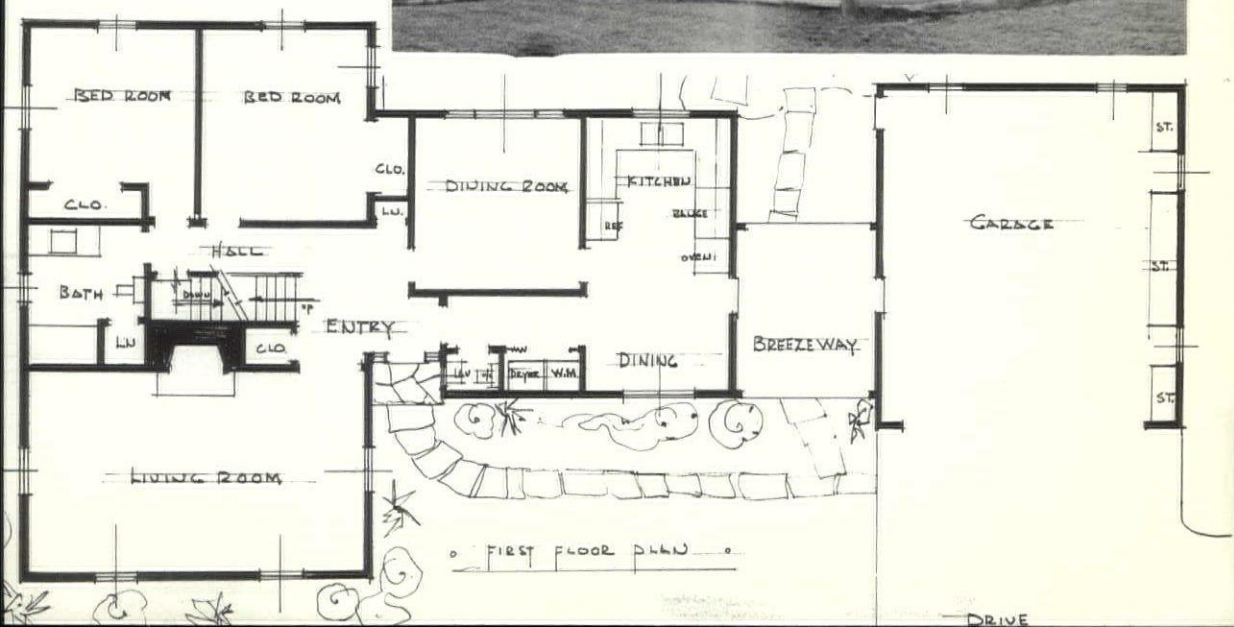
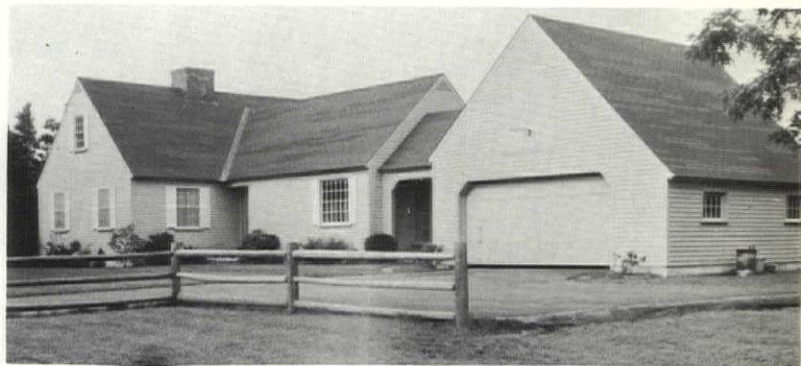
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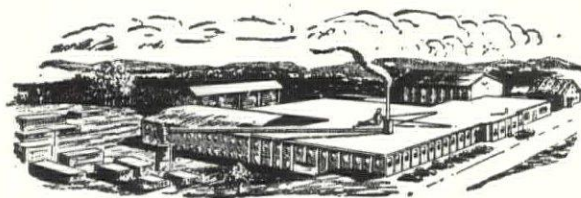
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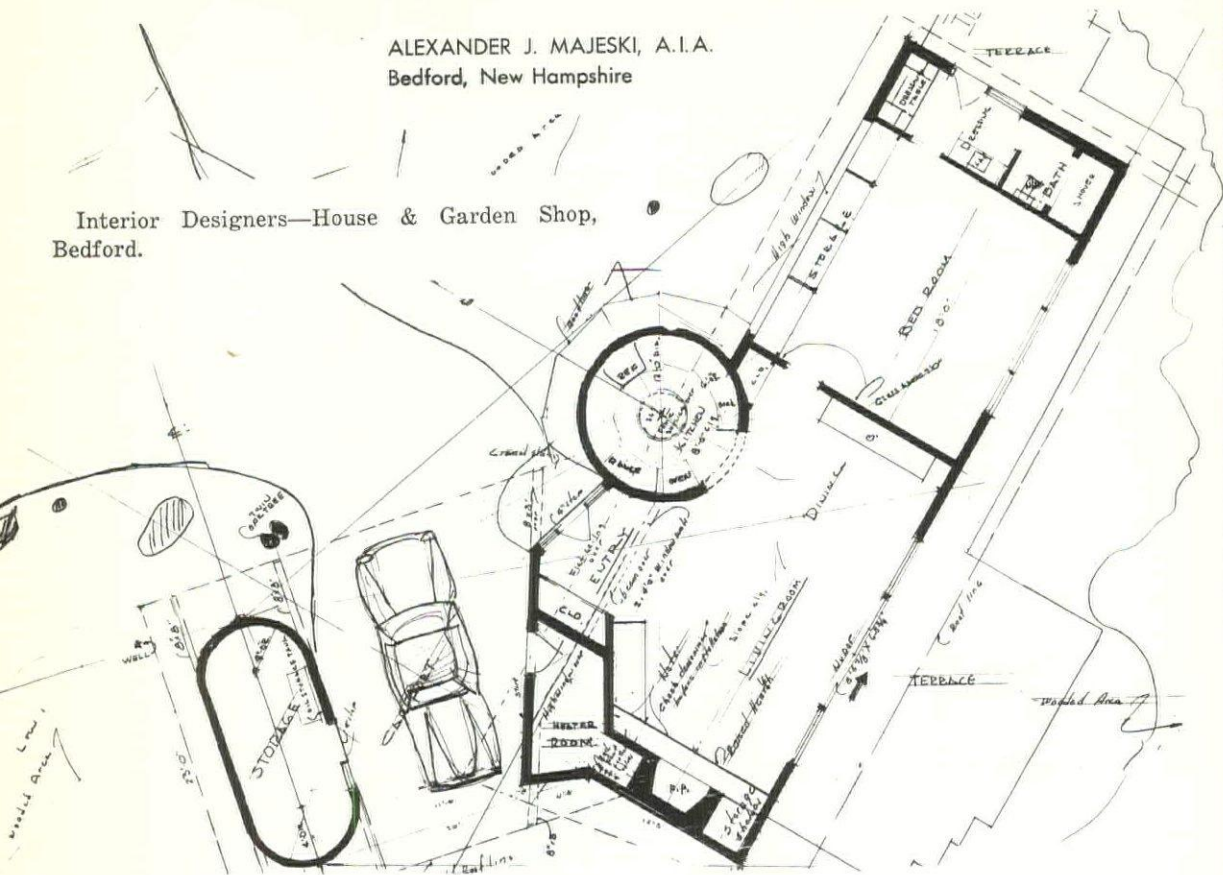
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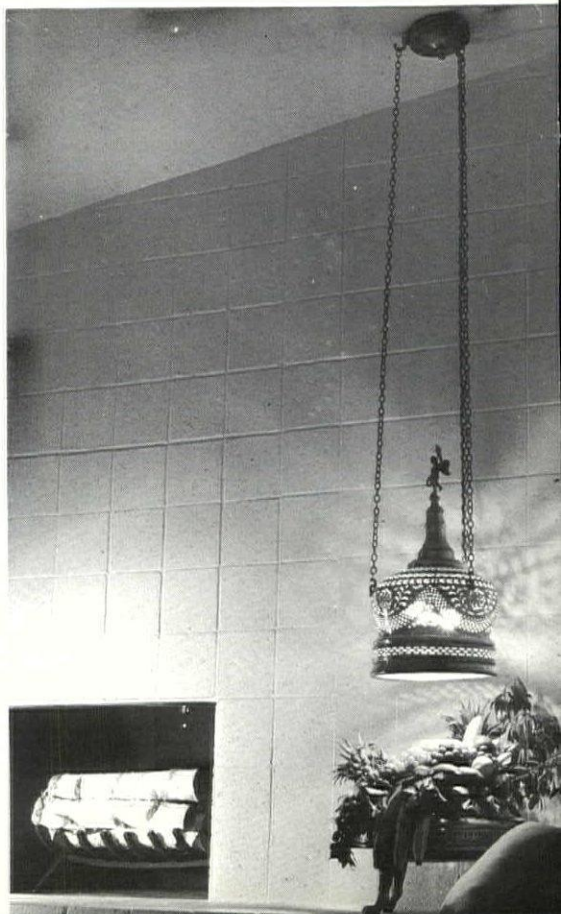
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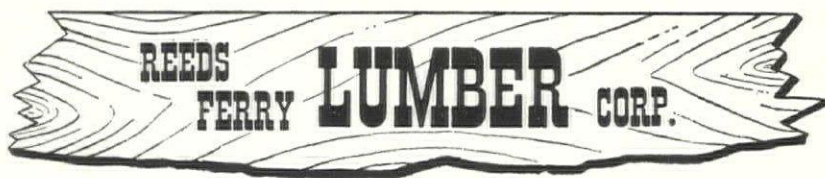
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WORK TO DOUBLE IN 25 YEARS A.I.A. HEARS

Some 2,000 architects gathered in Cleveland last month to talk about business prospects, financing and codes. They bestowed some honors, elected officers and paid passing tribute to the consulting architect's perennial protagonist, the package builder. They also voted to oppose extension of the east front of the Capitol.

The occasion was the annual meeting of the American Institute of Architects.

Optimism was in evidence. Robinson Newcomb, economics consultant of Washington, D. C., told an audience that his studies for Engineering News-Record show that design workloads will double in the next 25 years. From the present level of \$50 billion a year construction volume will climb to \$100 billion, he predicted. Particularly rapid growth will take place, Mr. Newcomb said, in construction of schools, apartment houses, charitable institutions and some types of commercial buildings. Other types of commercial construction will grow at a healthy rate, he said, along with industrial and one and two-family residential construction.

Mr. Newcomb's optimism on homebuilding was amplified by Nels Severin, president of the National Association of Home Builders. He predicted that the homebuilding industry will produce an average of 1.6 million houses a year in the decade beginning in 1965. That volume will just take care of basic shelter requirements, he indicated, and may be swelled by the much greater potential market.

But the business is not going to be handed to the builders on a silver platter, Mr. Severin said. Better design is a must. This thought was echoed by Royal Barry Wills, Boston architect, who is well known for his modifications of the Cape Cod cottage. "There's a 'crack in the picture window' too big to be ignored," Mr. Wills said. "Shoebox modern is quite gone."

The Architect—No Ordinary Man

He must be a man of vision and ambition, an after dinner speaker, a before and after guzzler, a night owl, work all day, learn to sleep on the floor and eat two meals a day to economize on travel expenses, drive all night and appear fresh the next day. He must be able to entertain the client's wife, his seniors' sweeties and pet stenographers without becoming too amorous. Inhale dust, live outside at 100 below, work all summer without perspiring or acquiring B.O. He must be a ladies' man, a man's man, a model husband, a fatherly father, a devoted son-in-law, a good provider, a plutocrat, a Democrat, a Republican, a New Dealer, an old dealer, a fast dealer, a technician, electrician, politician, machinist, mechanic, polygamist, ambidexterous and a specialist in Priorities.

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He must have a wide range of telephone numbers when entertaining visiting executives and clients.

He must also be an expert driver, talker, liar, traveler, bridge player, poker player, toreador, gold digger, golf player, diplomat, financier, capitalist, philanthropist, nudist and authority on Palmistry, Chemistry, Archaeology, Physiology, Obstetrics, Meteorology, Criminology, Dogs, Cats, Horses, Blondes, Trailers, Redheads, Rats, and Lingerie, plus Additional Virtues and Vices as required.



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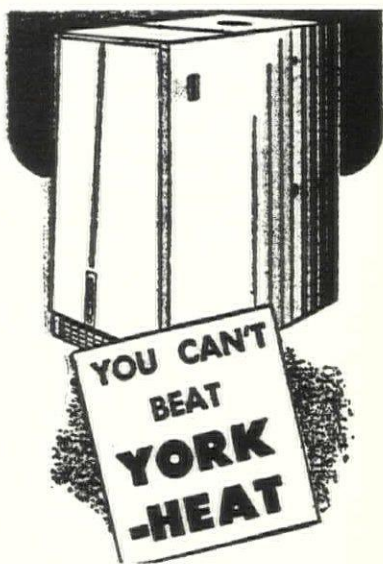
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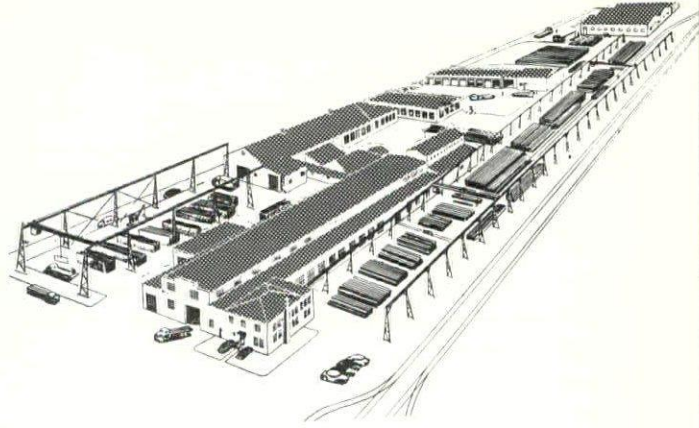
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VERMONT STRUCTURAL STEEL CORPORATION

MARKS

50th

ANNIVERSARY



This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Vermont Structural Steel Corp., according to an announcement by Floyd W. Moore, president.

When the firm, which was then known as the Vermont Construction Co., began operations for the first time in 1908, it did so as a small foundry and fabricating shop.

Today, at its half-century mark, it serves the state of Vermont, Northern New Hampshire, Northern New York, and occasionally Northern Maine and Western Massachusetts, with its needs in steel.

Its growth is a classic example of the results of Yankee enterprise. All indications point to future growth, as well, for Mr. Moore says that long-range plans call for a new bridge shop, where the firm will fabricate heavier work such as bridge beams, heavy beams for buildings, plate girders, rigid frames, etc.; enlargement of the reinforcing bar shop, longspan joists shop, plate shop, structural shop, machine shop, with additional equipment in all shops, a new office building, and additional crane service in the south yard.

When the firm was first organized, it took over the old plant and equipment of the firm of Lang and Goodhue, who operated a foundry and machine shop, manufacturing pumps, hydrants and similar products. The head of this firm, W. H. Lang, was noted for his engineering skill in design and installation of water works, and invented pumps and engines very advanced for their era. Mr. Goodhue of

the firm was the father of Grace Goodhue, wife of Calvin Coolidge. Goodhue was a well-known figure in steamboat construction and operation on Lake Champlain.

As the Vermont Construction Company, the firm operated a small foundry and fabricating shop, gradually developing a small business in structural steel and ornamental ironwork, as well as gray iron castings. Financial troubles made it necessary, in order to keep operating, to sell most of the machine tools of any value. The firm did, however, acquire some used structural fabricating equipment, the most important of which was the Pels combination punch and shear which is still in use, about the only equipment surviving that era. The buildings were not at that time very well adapted to the operations of a structural shop, so many alterations and additions have been necessary.

In 1911 the firm's financial situation grew worse, and it went into receivership, the trustees of the bondholders taking over. They operated the plant until 1914, when the bondholders formed a partnership which operated till June 1, 1921. At that time, the firm incorporated and in 1929 the name was changed from the Vermont Construction Co., Inc. to the Vermont Structural Steel Corporation.

The business has grown gradually, but steadily, with the increase in volume making many changes necessary. In the late thirties the foundry was converted into a plate and ornamental shop, which

proved more profitable than the foundry business. After a fire in 1946, extensive alterations were made; and since World War II, a building which had formerly been used for a finishing plant on war products was converted into a reinforcing bar shop, with an additional bay of the same size for fabrication of longspan joists.

In 1954 Vermont Structural Steel established a branch sales office in Plattsburgh, N. Y., which is now staffed with engineers and sales representatives to cover the Northern New York area.

In 1957 the firm acquired the Gulf Oil Co. property which was between the plate shop and the south yard. The engineering sales staff was moved to one of these buildings, and the balance are utilized for warehouse and garage facilities. The structural yard and craneway were extended south across this new property and the south yard.

In 1957 the firm also acquired the stock of the United Realty Co. as a subsidiary firm, which owns the property across from the plant on Flynn Ave. About one half of the building fronting on Flynn Ave. is used by the corporation, with the balance leased.

At the present time the firm employs about 125 people, with approximately 30% of them engaged in administrative, sales, technical and clerical work.

In addition to fabrication and warehousing of products for the construction industry, the firm performs such services as erection of structural steel, ornamental iron, fire escapes, stacks, roof decks, building panels, Q-floor, sash, doors, etc. It also does machine work, metalizing, welding, heavy equipment repairing, rigging and moving heavy machinery.

Its associate firm, the Vermont Engineering and Supply Co., Inc. operates from the same office and is, in part, served by the same personnel. Vermont Engineering is agent for a number of building products that round out most requirements of builders.

At the time of incorporation the officers of the firm were Frank C. Hooper, president; C. W. Brownell, vice president; A. E. Tryon, treasurer and manager. Mr. Hooper and Mr. Brownell had been two of the original founders.

Moore joined the organization in 1924 as chief engineer and took over the management in 1928, when Mr. Tryon retired. Frederick C. Hooper, a cousin of Frank C. Hooper, joined the organization in 1926; and as the firm grew and expanded, he and Moore became a management team until his death in 1953.

Currently the board of six directors, all of whom are stockholders, are key men, active in the business. They are F. Wendell Floyd, William H. Law, James Hurteau, Alan G. Kirkness, Robert W. Moore and Floyd W. Moore.

Upon occasion of the firm's 50th anniversary, President Moore said: "Any success we have enjoyed can be attributed to the confidence and loyalty of our employees from the production helper to the top management. I feel that our firm performs a useful service to the area in which we operate and is an asset to our community and our state. I look for continued growth in the demand for our products and services and we shall continue to strive for the highest standard of quality in both."

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A complimentary 20-page booklet entitled, "Specifications for Metal Lathing and Furring," may be obtained by writing to the Metal Lath Manufacturers Association, Engineers Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

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In addition to descriptive tables summarizing the various spans and spacings for supporting metal lath and plaster ceilings, the 1958 "Specs" include a page devoted to fire-resistive ratings.



New Hampshire was well represented at a recent meeting of the National Concrete Masonry Association held in Chicago. Among the guest speakers were Frank Lloyd Wright.

Concrete masonry progress in New England was described by representatives of the Duracrete Block Co., Inc., of Manchester, as part of the planned program.

Present at one of the luncheons were the following: From extreme left, Lillian Baci, Duracrete; Atty. Winthrop Wadleigh, Manchester; Dante Donati, Duracrete; Bob Farrell, Sugar Hill; Russell Burley, Lehigh Cement Co.; Arthur Donati, Duracrete; Arnold Perreton, A. I. A., Concord; Mrs. Waldeigh; Victor Kjellman, Duracrete; and Mrs. Dante Donati.

ARCHITECTS OPPOSE ALTERATIONS ON U. S. CAPITOL

WASHINGTON, D. C. — John Noble Richards, newly-elected president of The American Institute of Architects, has urged Congress to "heed the will of the American people and the advice of the nation's architects" and enact legislation promptly to block alterations of the U. S. Capitol building until expansion needs can be studied.

The statement of the prominent Toledo, Ohio, architect followed on the heels of the A. I. A. national convention last month in Cleveland, where delegates from chapters and state groups all over the nation voted overwhelmingly to continue opposition to the proposed extension of the Capitol's East Front. The vote was cast after a showing of plans and draw-

ings of the extension project by several architects engaged to carry it out.

Richards also called upon members of the architectural profession throughout the country to "act in concert" with civic, service, and patriotic groups in their communities in urging Congress to expedite passage of the Smith bill in the U. S. Senate. The bill was reported out unanimously by the Public Works Committee several months ago but has never been called to the floor by Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson.

The bill calls for a review of Capitol expansion needs prior to any extension of the East Front as now demanded by Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn.

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WHAT IS YOUR QUESTION?

Q. I am so sick of jokes about the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the bungling architects. I *personally* feel the architects designed the Tower as the world's greatest curiosity—and that their efforts have been extremely successful. What do you think?

A. If you have ever climbed the Tower, you will remember that there is an uncanny sensation of being able to run up the steps without effort on the side that leans forward. This was the Engineer's contribution—too bad the Tower looks so incompetent.

Q. What is "good" architecture?

A. It is not dollar diplomacy. It is not engineering. It is not even planning, alone. It is, of course, the efficient correlation of all these things—but it is something else, something more besides. It is, according to Ralph Hammett, professor of architecture at Michigan State, "Simply that quality of a building which causes people to look a second time because they like it."

Q. Can anything be done about a boss who always acts as though he wished nobody was working for him?

A. You might copy out this line from Benjamin Franklin and leave it around in some conspicuous place: "I early found out that when I worked for myself alone, myself alone worked for me, but when I worked for others also, others also worked for me."

Q. Do you think architects should design houses even when there is no profit in them for the office?

A. Architects who refuse to design houses, says Gerald Geerlings, AIA, New York, are like certain surgeons who will practice only in a carriage-trade hospital.

Q. Not long ago the Boss came into the drafting room and said, "Overhead is taking over." I thought he meant that a Mr. Overhead had joined the firm as a partner. (He meant expenses too high, not enough work). Like a ninny, I applauded just a little too impulsively and relations have been strained ever since. What can I do to make amends?

A. Short of resigning, about all you can do is work hard and pray.

Q. There are so many complexities and things to correlate and consider in a building project—can you name any one consideration most likely to be left out?

A. A tender concern for the architects of the future who will struggle to remodel the building.

Q. In aviation today an airplane design is said to be obsolete by the time its working drawings are complete. Do you think this is also true of most buildings?

A. It is wise for Architects to consider all their work Unfinished Business—not only because the budget generally runs out prematurely but also to avoid astonishment when the Client requires further services to solve his newer problems.

Q. I saw an ad recently that read "WANTED: Architects, literate, sense of humor, who want to answer questions related to home building, site selection, etc., for use in weekly newspaper column. Please contact S. S., AIA, DO 2-6314." Please explain?

A. This was a Western Chapter's attempt to interest its members in retaining some foothold in the vast field of home building where public interest in architecture is focused. The slightly derisive tone of the ad suggests the unhappy awareness of "S. S." that most architects are too busy or too disinterested in this field. If Chapter Offices throughout the country could invent and perfect a System of Referral for all Home building problems, enquiries and questions, the public awareness of the Architect would steadily grow and bear unexpected fruit, we'll wager.

Q. When the Client telephones and says that the carpenter on the job and one of the neighbors in the vicinity of the project have decided that the stairway in the building ought to be in the front instead of the back, what can you say?

A. Ask the Client what *his* opinion is, guiding his thought as helpfully as you can, and perhaps when he discovers that the back stairway was *his idea* in the first place, he will help you defend it (even if it wasn't).

Q. Isn't it fearsome to think that the Russians have put a dog a thousand miles out into space and kept him there?

A. Yes . . . until you remember that it would take a jet plane travelling 700 miles an hour a million years

to reach the nearest star.

Q. Have you any recommendations as to what to do when the bids come in under the Architect's estimate?

A. Have a ball.

Q. What is a "poop sheet"?

A. A "poop sheet" is a collection of pertinent data observed and collected by the Architect at various stages of the development of a project or when interesting or unusual construction operations are taking place on the job. It is furnished to the Owner for his use in releasing news to the press which is accurate, pertinent and complete—including both the name of and credits to the Architect. (Suggested by Public Relations Committee, Colorado Chapter).

Q. Can you suggest any efficiency procedures for the average architectural office?

A. Kansas architects have found it very useful to require draftsmen to use a number when making excuses about work and have devised the following helpful code: (1) That's the way we've always done it. (2) I didn't know you were in a hurry for it. (3) It must have been on another sheet. (4) No one told me to go ahead. (5) I am waiting for an approval. (6) Wait until the boss comes back and ask him. (7) I forgot. (8) I didn't think it was that important. (9) I thought I told you. (10) I couldn't believe he meant it. (11) I didn't realize this was a different condition.



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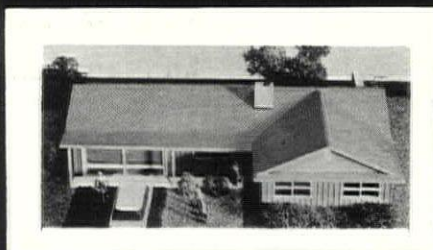
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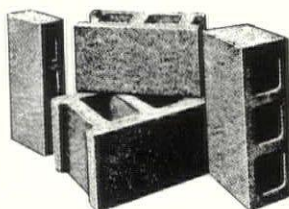
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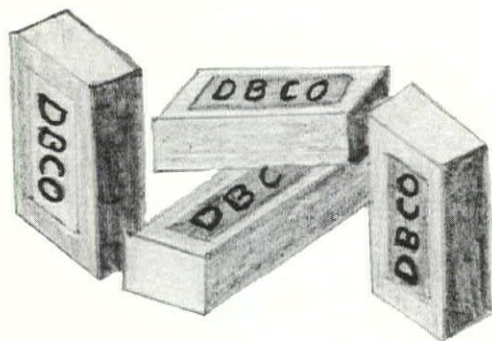
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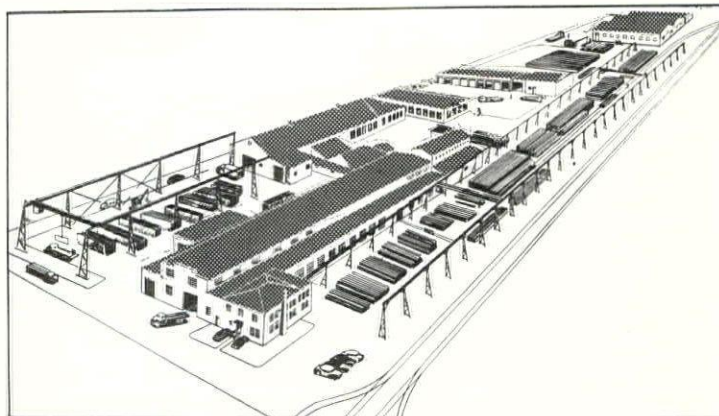
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